

March 20, 2012

Re: Bill #5519

LCO No. 2391

02391_____GAE


An Act Concerning the Conveyance of
Certain Parcels of State Land

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

I am writing on behalf of my parents, Carolyn and Edward Sheehan, of Andover, who have been seeking to buy their land back from the State of Connecticut. Approximately 30 years ago the state used eminent domain to take away a portion of my parents' land, for the restructuring of Route 6. The proposed highway never happened, after years of battles with the Army Corps. This land had been in my mother's family for generations. It was the dream of my grandparents to pass this land onto their children and grandchildren and great grandchildren. When the land (a rather narrow strip of roadside acreage stretching a half mile in length, totaling approximately 11 acres) was taken away it divided a section of land, leaving the rear acreage inaccessible and separate. My elderly parents held hopes over all the years, that if the highway was not going to be built, they would have the opportunity to purchase the land back - land that was never used by the state for its intended purpose. It serves no purpose for the state to hold onto this land. The state would benefit financially from allowing the owners to buy their land back. The towns would benefit by getting more tax money from the owners as well. In short, it would make fiscal sense for the state to sell the land back.

I am appealing to you, in the spirit of good will and fairness, to pass this long overdue bill. It would benefit everyone and be the most sensible use of the land. My father passed away last year and one of the last things he said to me was to please help my Mom get the land back. I hope I have been able to do this. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Sheehan".

Michael Sheehan